

WEATHER FORECAST:
Rain or snow tonight.
Full Report on Page Two.

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Sixteen Pages

PRICE ONE CENT.

30 AMERICANS ARE STARVING IN A MEXICAN SEAPORT CITY

Employees of United Sugar Company Are At Mercy of Savage Indians, Who Hold Topolobampo.

Railroad Connections Cut Off and Huerta's Gunboats in Harbor Maintain Blockade and Prevent Importations.

Thirty Americans are starving in the town of Topolobampo on the Pacific coast of Mexico in the northern part of the state of Sinaloa.

While this news has not yet been given out officially from the State Department, pending an investigation by the American consul at Mazatlan in the same state it became known here this morning that an appeal had been sent to officials here for relief for these people.

Neither federal nor constitutionalists are blamed for the conditions at Topolobampo as neither side of the revolution has had any troops at this coast point for several weeks. In fact not since the battle at the city of Culiacan, the capital of Sinaloa.

At Mercy of Indians.

Topolobampo at the present time is said to be at the mercy of savage Indians led by half-breeds who throughout the campaign on the west coast have followed the troops of both sides without interest in the revolution beyond purposes of pillage. They are the lowest order of natives in Mexico and while some are armed with modern rifles which they have stolen from mines and haciendas during the present revolution, many still fight with bows and arrows and poisoned spears.

The Americans who are in peril at Topolobampo are the employees of the United Sugar Company, which had a thriving business at that port before the revolution. Topolobampo is the Pacific Coast terminus of the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient railroad, better known as the Silver Road, which was built by popular subscription after its promoter had failed to finance it in Wall Street.

While it is not completely cut off from the rest of the world, the town is up to the time that railroad connection was destroyed and the harbor was closed by the Southern Pacific's Mexican extension so that the sugar company with headquarters at the port and both land and water shipping facilities.

Products Sent To Arizona.

Before the railroad connection was cut 200 cars of west coast products were sent into Arizona by the Americans at Topolobampo.

Another 30 cars were tied up at the port, and their contents rotted on the tracks. It is now more than eight months since the Americans there have been able to obtain any assistance, and land communication has been cut off, and the water side by Huerta's gunboats to prevent its being used as a point for the reception of arms by the constitutionalists.

Rebel Forces Destroy Federal Convoy Train

Constitutionalist forces destroyed a federal convoy train sixty miles from San Luis Potosi on December 23, according to State Department advices today. Thirty-four federalists were killed and traffic is suspended.

Philip McLaughlin and his mother, Americans for whose safety anxiety has been felt, are reported in Chihuahua. No change in the Tampico situation is reported. The steamer City of Tampico will arrive at New Orleans Saturday with three American refugees.

Spanish Naval Officers To Visit Gen. Huerta

VERA CRUZ, Dec. 26.—Officers of the Spanish cruiser Carlos V today prepared to go to Mexico City to call upon General Huerta and confer with General Carranza. The Spanish minister, when the Carlos V. went to Mexico to look after the interest of Spanish subjects, dropped anchor outside the harbor late yesterday and was greeted by a crowd of 2,000 and a special representative of Huerta boarded her to invite the officers to the capital.

Atlantic Coast Line.

The Standard R. R. of the South, 3 trains daily to Florida, Cuba, south, 2:40 p. m., 4:20 a. m. 1006 New York ave. n. w.—Adv.

WINS RIGHT TO TALK AT CAPITOL



Who finished speech on Capitol steps, which he began twenty years ago while grand marshal of Coxy's army of unemployed.

CARL BROWNE TALKS ON CAPITOL STEPS

Wins 20 Years' Fight For Right to Make Speech Without Interference.

With the constitutional guarantee of free speech as his watchword, Carl Browne today set about the task of effecting such modification of the regulations governing the use of the grounds surrounding the United States Capitol as will permit citizens to assemble therein and listen to their speakers without interference on the part of the police.

His first public utterance on the subject was at the meeting of the Ironworkers' Local of the Federation of Labor tonight, and on Monday, he has been invited to address the Central Labor Union, he says.

Ends Speech Twenty Years' Old.

Ever since he was arrested and hauled from the Capitol steps, nearly twenty years ago, when he attempted to address the multitude that had assembled, Mr. Browne has been unceasingly endeavoring to complete that speech, and it was not until Christmas Day that he succeeded in doing so. On the occasion of his morning visit, he was met by a squad of police and prevented from doing more than pose for his photograph, but the vigilance of the officers, apparently, relaxed as a result of the statement of Speaker Clark that he had no objection to Browne's speaking, and that only the rules prevented him from granting the necessary permit, which he would do if the Vice President would join with him.

On learning that Vice President Marshall was out of town, "Colonel" Browne decided "to stand upon his constitutional rights and brave arrest" in his endeavor to speak. He accordingly appeared upon the steps promptly at 10 o'clock, and a handful of followers began his address. People who had been waiting in sheltered places quickly gathered from all sides, but no member of the police force appeared.

Demands Right To Work.

Twenty-three minutes were consumed by the proceedings, during the course of which the "labor knight" enlarged upon his declaration of principle that "To eat, to work, and to be recompensed for enforced idleness are inalienable rights." He was liberally applauded as he made telling points in his address, and much interest was evidenced in the illustrations he drew upon a blackboard.

He expressed great admiration for Speaker Clark, who he declared, was a true friend of the people, but felt that Vice President Marshall was open to censure for not having furnished the necessary permit.

Mr. Browne will undertake to interest Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in the movement to amend the Capitol rules, and will soon leave the city on a campaign of education with a view to inducing the voters of the United States to support him in his endeavor.

\$1.25 To Baltimore and Return. Every Saturday and Sunday, Pennsylvania railroad. Tickets good to return until 9:00 A. M. following Monday.—Adv.

WILSON STARTS REAL HOLIDAY; BARS BUSINESS

Affairs of State To Be Given No Attention Until Middle of Next Week.

PLANS FOR MUCH SLEEP

Missing Watch Is Found—Natives Bare Heads When Executive Passes.

PASS CHRISTIAN, Miss. Dec. 26.—Rapidly moderating temperature permitted President Wilson to start today on a real holiday. He planned to devote both today and tomorrow to resting in his own way. Business was to be strictly tabooed.

Consequently certain official telegrams from Washington were answered hurriedly after breakfast so that an early start could be made for the golf links at East Gulfport, thirteen miles and thirteen yards from the temporary White House.

Plenty of Sleep.

The President slept late. He went to bed early. To Dr. Grayson he expressed his determination to sleep not less than eleven hours daily during his stay here on the Gulf.

Two hours of the morning were to be devoted to golf, three to a rest before and after luncheon, three to exposing the golf country in his high-powered automobile, and the remainder to walks or other recreation with his family. This program was to hold good until the middle of next week, when the pressing business affairs of state were to be taken up.

There was jubilation in the Wilson family today. A gold watch owned by Miss Margaret, one of the earliest presents given her by her mother, which disappeared on the trip down from Washington, had turned up. It was thought yesterday that it had been lost or stolen. Today it arrived in custody of a railroad man, having been found underneath the pillow of the waterroom attendant's daughter who had occupied the President's daughter's room.

Probably never before has a President of the United States had more official guardians. Every male white resident of this picturesque little village has constituted himself a member of a volunteer safety committee. Strangers are closely scrutinized. Those who seem out of place are interviewed and forced to reveal their reason for being here.

Each villager packs his artillery in a handy pocket. The responsibility of the Commonweal is very great, but it has been accepted at its face value.

And the President, while amused, also is touched by this solicitation and has promised to accept an annual graciously in his manner to all persons he meets.

Bare Their Heads.

As he strolls along or whizzes past in his car, heads are uncovered until he is almost out of sight. His desire for privacy is respected, but he is shown in unmistakable terms that his coming here is appreciated.

If the President is considering acceptance of the offer, he is considering acceptance. (Continued on Page Sixteen.)

AMERICAN SINGER CHARGES BLACKMAIL

Miss MacVane Says Newspaper Man Demanded \$2,000 For Suppressing Story.

TARANTO, Italy, Dec. 26.—Miss Dorothy MacVane, the American opera prima donna, who two weeks ago was under surveillance, suspected of being a spy, today asked the Italian police to arrest a Taranto newspaper man whom she accused of attempted blackmail.

Miss MacVane, who is the daughter of a former Harvard instructor, and sister of Edith MacVane, a magazine writer, charged that the journalist demanded \$2,000 from her for the suppression of an alleged defamatory article.

The impresario of the opera company with which Miss MacVane has been touring southern Italy accused the singer of breach of contract, and insisted on attaching her funds.

In connection with this Miss MacVane said the Italian newspaper man tried to blackmail her.

Thief Frightened Away.

John A. Marshall, of 1723 Third street northeast, complained to the police that an attempt was made to enter his home early today by removing a pane from a first floor window. The would-be thief was frightened away.

The Raleigh Hotel.

Tables are now being reserved for New Year's Eve. Admission by card only.—Adv.

PRINTING OFFICE CHANGES ARE NOW UNDER INVESTIGATION; DEMOCRATS PROMOTED, REPUBLICANS DEMOTED

CAPITAL ELATED AT UNDERWOOD'S FAIR PLAY TALK

Majority Leader's Message, Conveyed By The Times, Reassures District Citizens.

NO HASTY TAX REPEAL

Former Commissioners Macfarland and Rudolph Applaud Alabamian's Opinions.

By GEORGE H. GALL.

Congressman Underwood's view of the manner in which Uncle Sam should deal with the people of the District of Columbia, as exclusively told in The Times Christmas has produced a feeling of profound satisfaction in Washington today.

As expressed by one prominent business man and civic leader, no finer Christmas offering could have been made to the people of this city than the message conveyed by The Times from the leader of the majority party in the House of Representatives.

While business and professional leaders are inclined now to refrain from further public discussion of the agitation provoked by the introduction of the measure to end the existing financial relation between the National Government and the District of Columbia, they applaud, to a man, today the justice, fairness, soundness, and good sense of the Underwood view and proposal.

No Meeting Called.

Unwilling, as children, to make any personal statement of opinion William H. Singleton, chairman of the joint committee of the Board of Trade, Chamber of Commerce and Retail Merchants' Association, having in charge the opposition to the bill which proposes to destroy the half-and-half principle of appropriations, today indicated his and the committee's satisfaction by stating that no meeting of the committee is scheduled and that he has no present purpose in calling any meeting.

Among others, two former heads of the Government of the District, Cuno H. Rudolph, president of the Board of Trade, and Henry B. Macfarland, expressed their satisfaction and confidence in the outlook as based upon Mr. Underwood's declaration.

H. B. Macfarland's Views.

Mr. Macfarland, who recently asserted his confidence in the wisdom and justice of Congress in face of the antagonistic proposals made on the floor of the House, supplemented his view as follows:

"The announced purpose to take no action upsetting the organic act with due inquiry and deliberation accords with my view of the wisdom and justice of Congress, and I believe that such inquiry will result in maintaining the present financial relation between the National Government and the District of Columbia, under which the true National Capital has been developed since 1853.

"I believe any impartial inquiry will satisfy Congress that the people of this country, proud of their National City, want it to be all respects the finest Capital in the world.

"I believe that all the intelligent constituents of Senators and Representatives in Congress are glad to make their contribution to the upbuilding of their Capital here, and that the National Government may occupy and have withdrawn from taxation.

Want a Complete City.

"Moreover, I believe they want it to be a complete city, as nearly perfect as possible in all its municipal services as well as in outward appearance. They have no idea that those living here could or should maintain such a city."

Mr. Rudolph said that Mr. Underwood's plan was eminently satisfactory to him, and expressed his gratification that its announcement had been made at this time.

R. P. Andrews, president of the Convention Hall, Dancing, Tonight—Prize Fish Walk. Admission Free.—Adv.



CORNELIUS FORD, Public Printer.

GALE SWEEPING ATLANTIC COAST HEADS THIS WAY

Houses Overturned and Shipping Demoralized By All-Night Storm.

One of the worst storms of the season which swept the Jersey coast during the night, causing a loss of upward of \$1,000,000 and rendering 150 persons homeless struck New York today, menacing shipping and causing heavy damage.

Numerous small craft were driven ashore, but so far only one life is believed to have been lost.

The storm is expected to reach Washington tonight, accompanied by high wind and snow or rain.

The storm raged along the Jersey coast from North Long Branch to Highland Beach during the night and today.

Many Houses Overturned.

Houses were overturned, summer residents of wealthy New Yorkers were flooded and fishermen and their families driven from their homes. Sea-breeze made desperate efforts to reach the shore, suffering heavily. A record high tide was running and two houses were overturned. Others were flooded, and when the electric light plant was put out of commission, the town was thrown into the greatest darkness.

The night was spent in darkness. Summer cottages and hotels were badly damaged. Fishermen and their families, living close to the sea were forced to apply to the town hall and other public buildings for shelter when their homes were flooded or swept away. The heavy sea tore at the shore, protecting the summer residences.

Traffic Is Demoralized.

Trains were badly delayed today and all shipping was endangered. Life savers at Forked River, N. J., reported that two barges sank about three-quarters of a mile off shore. A man was seen on one large barge before it went down and is believed to have been drowned.

Distress signals were received from an unidentified bark aground off Seaside Beach, near Point Pleasant, N. J. Life-savers at Bay Head and Point Pleasant made desperate efforts to reach the boat, but were forced to turn back by the high seas. Members of the crews could be seen leaping to the rigging. The waves were beating over the boat, and it was feared that unless relief reached her soon she would sink. The steamer cutter Seneca left Tompkinsville at noon to go to the aid of the stricken vessel. The vessel was aground about a mile off shore.

Community Tree Wrecked.

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 26.—The forty-five-foot municipal Christmas tree erected in front of the city hall was blown down early today by the fierce wind and rain storm which struck this section yesterday and lasted until early today. An effort will be made to replace the tree today and continue the exercises.

Snow Causes Collision.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Dec. 26.—While a blinding snow storm raged here early today, there was a rear-end collision in the New York Central yards that resulted in the injury of six people and a big loss in merchandise and lumber. Three freight cars had been detached from the main train when passenger

HERE ARE THE CHANGES

REDUCTIONS.					
Name.	Position.	Salary.	Salary Before Reduction.	Position.	State.
J. E. Berg, copy editor.		\$1,000	\$5,000	Rep.	Neb.
T. J. Rowe, foreman.		1,800	2,800	Rep.	Miss.
L. D. Brandon, asst. foreman.		1,800	2,700	Rep.	Iowa
C. E. Rudy, makup.		1,750	2,550	Rep.	Penn.
J. A. Patterson, bookbinder.		1,250	1,500	Rep.	N. Y.
F. McDermott, compositor.		1,250	1,500	Rep.	D. C.
D. J. Roberts, reader.		1,500	2,000	Rep.	Kan.
R. A. Julian, makup.		1,250	1,500	Rep.	Neb.
H. D. Langston, makup.		1,250	1,500	Rep.	N. Y.
L. E. Kenner, makup.		1,250	2,250	Rep.	Neb.
A. A. Allison, reader.		1,500	1,750	Rep.	Penn.
G. O. Atkinson, reader.		1,500	1,750	Rep.	Mass.
W. Rubenschatz, reader.		1,500	1,750	Rep.	Iowa
W. H. Smith, asst. foreman.		1,500	2,000	Rep.	Mo.
T. J. Haworth, makup.		1,500	2,000	Rep.	N. Y.
H. E. Zeigler, reader.		1,500	2,250	Rep.	N. Y.
C. E. Bradley, operator.		1,500	1,650	Rep.	N. Y.
C. W. Burnett, compositor.		1,250	1,500	Rep.	Miss.
E. S. Wild, compositor.		1,250	1,500	Rep.	Penn.
A. J. Watson, operator.		1,500	1,500	Rep.	Penn.
R. E. Stanner, operator.		1,500	1,500	Rep.	Wash.
F. L. White, pressman.		1,500	1,500	Rep.	Mo.
C. E. Malpas, in charge sec.		1,750	2,000	Rep.	Ind.
H. W. Weber, reviser.		1,750	2,000	Rep.	Ind.
A. Lindstrom, bookbinder.		1,250	1,750	Rep.	Mo.
A. J. Pletta, pressman.		1,400	1,500	Rep.	N. Y.
J. E. Bishop, pressman.		1,400	1,500	Rep.	N. Y.
J. D. Meyers, pressman.		1,400	2,000	Rep.	Ohio
J. W. Whitcomb, reader.		1,500	2,250	Rep.	N. Y.
E. L. Davis, reader.		1,500	1,500	Rep.	Penn.
J. A. Scannell, reader.		1,500	1,500	Rep.	Mass.

PROMOTIONS.					
Name.	Position.	Salary.	Salary Before Promotion.	Position.	State.
D. V. Chisholm, supt. of work.		\$3,000	\$1,000	Dem.	S. C.
E. M. Nevils, foreman line.		2,750	1,500	Dem.	Tenn.
W. J. McAvoy, foreman line.		2,250	1,500	Dem.	N. Y.
J. E. Payne, foreman proof.		2,250	1,500	Dem.	Ohio
Wm. A. Pratt, foreman proof.		2,300	1,500	Dem.	Fla.
R. T. Ward, reader.		1,800	1,500	Dem.	Va.
F. C. Roberts, reader.		1,500	1,250	Dem.	Ga.
G. G. Wilson, foreman.		3,000	1,000	Dem.	Ga.
S. H. Bidings, foreman.		2,350	1,000	Dem.	Mo.
C. E. Haines, foreman.		2,350	1,500	Dem.	W. Va.
R. C. Lohmeyer, foreman.		2,000	1,000	Dem.	Va.
J. E. Cogan, foreman.		2,000	1,000	Dem.	Penn.
T. Shea, asst. foreman.		1,800	1,000	Dem.	N. J.
E. M. Webster, bookbinder in charge.		1,750	1,250	Dem.	Mich.
M. M. Sweetman, bookbinder in charge.		1,750	1,000	Dem.	Ohio
L. F. Ludlow, bookbinder in charge.		1,750	1,000	Dem.	N. Y.
J. H. Brodnax, foreman.		2,000	1,000	Dem.	Ark.
J. McCannell, bookbinder in charge.		1,500	1,250	Dem.	Penn.
J. H. Hooper, reader.		1,800	1,400	Dem.	N. C.
T. H. Collins, makup.		1,400	1,200	Dem.	N. C.
J. J. Pepper, helper.		1,000	875	Dem.	D. C.
A. J. Arnold, deskman.		1,750	1,000	Dem.	N. Y.
A. Forester, deskman and assistant foreman.		2,000	1,400	Dem.	Fla.
M. Spencer, asst. foreman.		2,000	1,800	Dem.	Miss.
H. C. McLean, foreman.		2,250	1,800	Dem.	Ind.
John R. Durissee, reader.		1,500	1,250	Dem.	S. C.
F. V. Capers, reader.		1,500	1,250	Dem.	S. C.
J. T. Geraci, makup.		1,800	1,750	Dem.	Mo.
W. H. Guthridge, reviser.		1,825	1,500	Dem.	Mo.
W. F. O'Brien, asst. foreman.		2,000	1,500	Dem.	Mich.
E. H. Walker, foreman.		2,500	1,400	Dem.	Tex.
J. P. Kahler, asst. foreman.		2,000	1,400	Dem.	Mo.
H. R. Christie, asst. foreman.		2,000	1,750	Dem.	N. Y.
G. C. Cole, in charge section.		1,750	1,400	Dem.	Mich.
A. Lednum, asst. foreman.		2,000	1,400	Dem.	Mo.
W. D. Morgan, reader.		1,500	1,250	Dem.	Ark.
A. L. Huss, referee.		1,800	1,500	Dem.	Penn.
W. W. Taylor, asst. foreman.		2,000	1,500	Dem.	Va.
J. W. Brooke, reader.		1,500	1,250	Dem.	Ala.

EFFICIENCY TEST QUEERLY FOLLOWS POLITICAL FAITH OF THE EMPLOYEES

Out of Seventy Changes Made Since July 1, 31 Are Demotions of Republicans and 39 Promotions of Democrats

Inquiry by a Senator Develops Peculiar Situation—Ford Asserts Changes Are Made in Interest of Efficiency Only.

By JUDSON C. WELLIVER.

In a list of thirty-nine promotions that have taken place in the Government Printing Office since July 1, every employee promoted is set down as a Democrat.

In a list of thirty-nine demotions, on the other hand, every one is indicated as a Republican.

The list was made up for the use of a United States Senator who has been investigating charges of political manipulation in the civil service in Washington. It will probably appear as a feature in a statement of these conditions, which will be made from the floor of the Senate soon after Congress reconvenes.

Believes It Is Widespread.

"It is my belief, based on a most dest of information that has come to me," said the Senator, "that the civil service establishment in this city is being rapped. I have reason to believe it is confined to no one establishment, but that it extends to a considerable number of them."

"It is true that a great number of promotions have taken place in the Government Printing Office, and a corresponding number of demotions, and that all the demotions are among Republicans and all the promotions among Democrats, of course, that proves nothing."

"It may be that no man with Republican antecedents is competent; it may be that any man with Democratic backing is preferable on the ground of competency."

"But I don't believe it, and I know nobody else will. I am going to know more about this strange coincidence of Democratic efficiency and Republican inefficiency."

Law May Be Violated.

"If men are being removed from better to poorer places BECAUSE they are Republicans, if they are being advanced from poorer to better places BECAUSE they are Democrats, then the law is being violated."

"I shall take steps in due time to develop all these facts; whether by regulation I cannot now say. The Government Printing Office is not the only one in which I am making inquiries."

When the Senator produced from his pocket a list of thirty-nine demotions and thirty-one Republican promotions, showing the strange coincidence of thirty-nine Democrats promoted and no single Democrat demoted—he was asked if he had knowledge of the accuracy of the list.

"I have not," he replied frankly. "But you believe this list is correct?"

"I have every reason to so believe. An old friend of mine in the office first called on me regarding his office case. He is in this list. I talked the matter over, and he sent some others with him."

"I became convinced that politics was at the bottom of the wholesale shifting of men, and I definitely ascertained political affiliations. This list is the result. It